

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 IO-15 ISO-00 SAJ-01 MBFR-04

ACDA-19 TRSE-00 EB-11 COME-00 CIEP-02 STR-08 AGR-20

CU-04 OIC-04 SCI-06 NSF-04 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 DRC-01 /216 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1976

INFO ALL CSCE CAPITALS 27

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

USLO SACLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 5329

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: CSCE: STAGE II HIGHLIGHTS -
OCTOBER 1 - 5

1. SUMMARY. WORK OF CONFERENCE WAS HELD UP BRIEFLY
OCT 1 - 2 AS COORDINATING COMMITTEE REVIEWED WORK
SCHEDULE. AT WEEK'S END, WITH SCHEDULE AGREED UP TO
NOV 16, CONFERENCE SUB-COMMITTEES WHICH HAD NOT ALREADY
DONE SO GINGERLY ENTERED SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS. END
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SUMMARY.

2. WORK PROGRAM. AFTER THREE DAYS OF HAGGLING COORDINATING COMMITTEE AGREED ON SCHEDULE FOR THIRTY-SIX COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS PER WEEK THROUGH NOVEMBER 16, WHEN SCHEDULE WILL BE REVIEWED.

3. PRINCIPLES. GENERAL DISCUSSION OF CHARACTERISTICS OF A DECLARATION ON PRINCIPLES CONTINUED WITH ALMOST ALL DELS AGREED THAT THE DECLARATION SHOULD NOT BE LEGALLY BINDING OR CREATE A NEW EUROPEAN INTERNATIONAL LAW. WESTERN DELS DWELT ON THE NECESSITY TO APPLY THE PRINCIPLES EQUALLY TO ALL PARTICIPANTS. SOVIET REP ARGUED THAT DECLARATION, WHILE NOT A TREATY, SHOULD CONTAIN "CERTAIN OBLIGATIONS" AND BE MADE "AS BINDING AS POSSIBLE" BY BEING ENTITLED A "GENERAL DECLARATION," THUS GIVING IT A STATUS ABOVE THE UN PRINCIPLES DECLARATIONS, AND BY BEING SIGNED BY CHIEFS OF STATE. SWISS REP ARGUED THAT ONLY A TREATY COULD CREATE BINDING OBLIGATIONS.

4. PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES. WEST ARGUED THAT MUCH OF SOVIET AND ROMANIAN PAPERS DUPLICATES WORK OF OTHER COMMITTEES. IN RESPONSE, SOVIET REP STATED THAT HIS DELEGATION COULD ACCEPT POSTPONING DISCUSSION OF SOVIET PROPOSALS ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND CULTURAL AND HUMAN CONTACTS UNTIL WORK OF SUBCOMMITTEES IN THESE AREAS NEARS COMPLETION. SWEDISH REP REPEATED HIS GOVERNMENT'S OPPOSITION TO ANY FORM OF POST-CSCE POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS.

5. CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES (CBMS). US REP EXPLAINED THAT ALTHOUGH US FAVORED FULL DISCUSSION OF ISSUES PRIOR TO DRAFTING, MANY PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD WENT BEYOND OUR CONCEPT OF CBMS. HE STRESSED NEED FOR SIFTING OUT THOSE WHICH WERE PRACTICAL AND ON WHICH AGREEMENT WAS ATTAINABLE. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT USG WAS OPPOSED TO ANY INSTITUTIONALIZED INFORMATION LINK BETWEEN CSCE AND MBFR. IN DISCUSSIONS OF WORK PROGRAM, SOVIETS PREDICTABLY SOUGHT TO DEVOTE MOST TIME TO CBMS STIPULATED IN HELSINKI RECOMMENDATIONS. ROMANIA OPPOSED THIS AND PRESSED FOR ADDED TIME FOR DISCUSSION OF BROADER ISSUES. SOVIET/ROMANIAN COMPROMISE
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PROVIDES FOR DISCUSSION OF HELSINKI CBMS DURING PERIOD OCTOBER 8 - 19 AND BROADER ISSUES OCTOBER 22 - 29. AT NATO CAUCUS, ALLIES CONTINUED FAVOR JOINT STUDY OF CBMS ON MANEUVERS AND MOVEMENTS AND US REP REITERATED US RESERVATIONS ON MOVEMENTS ISSUE.

6. COOPERATION IN ECONOMIC AREAS. SUBCOMMITTEES ON COMMERCIAL EXCHANGES, INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION AND SCIENCE AND

TECHNOLOGY BEGAN SUBSTANTIVE WORK WITH GENERAL STATEMENTS OF WELL-KNOWN POSITIONS. LIVELIEST EVENT OF THE WEEK OCCURRED WHEN EASTERN COUNTRIES MADE INCONCLUSIVE CHALLENGE TO INCLUSION IN DANISH DELEGATION OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITY COMMISSION OFFICIALS.

7. HUMAN CONTRACTS AND INFORMATION. LIVELY DISCUSSION CONTINUED ON FAMILY RELATED TOPICS AND FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION, WITH EAST REITERATING ITS WILLINGNESS TO EXPAND WHILE MAINTAINING RESPECT FOR INTERNAL CONTROLS. FRENCH STATEMENT STRESSED EAST-WEST IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES WERE THE BASIS FOR LACK OF REAL DIALOGUE. WHILE DECLARING FOR FREEDOM FRENCH CALLED FOR REALISM IN QUEST FOR COMMON GROUND.

8. CULTURE AND EDUCATION. INITIAL ROUND OF GENERAL DEBATE CONCLUDED WITH SOVIETS STRESSING IMPORTANCE OF GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS IN EXPANDING EXCHANGES IN THESE FIELDS. WESTERN DELEGATIONS RECOGNIZED ROLE OF SUCH AGREEMENTS BUT URGED FULLEST POSSIBLE USE OF PRIVATE INITIATIVES AND INFORMAL CONTACTS BETWEEN NON-GOVERNMENTAL BODIES.

9. COMMENT. THIS AMORPHOUS CONFERENCE IS TAKING SHAPE GRADUALLY. PROCEDURE HAS BEEN SETTLED, BUT SUBSTANCE HAS ONLY BEEN NIBBLED AT. EXCEPTION TO THIS GENERAL RULE IS AGENDA ITEM I (SECURITY) WHERE SUBCOMMITTEE ON PRINCIPLES IS PROCEEDING IN BUSINESSLIKE FASHON, MILITARY CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES HAS RECEIVED A NUMBER OF PROPOSALS GOING WELL BEYOND AGREED DISCUSSION SUBJECTS, AND SPECIAL WORKING BODY ON PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES IS TRYING TO GET A GRIP ON FAR-REACHING SWISS AND ROMANIAN PROPOSALS. ELSEWHERE, IN FACE OF EASTERN INSISTENCE ON IMMEDIATE DRAFTING, WEST HAS FOUGHT HARD FOR MORE CAUTIOUS APPROACH, CONFIDENTIAL

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WITH FULL PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS. BUT DISCUSSIONS OF WHAT? THUS FAR, WESTERN PROPOSALS UNDER AGENDA ITEM II (COOPERATION IN ECONOMICS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY) REMAIN MEAGRE AND PERIPHERAL AND UNDER THIS AND AGENDA ITEM III (HUMAN CONTACTS) THEY HAVE PROVOKED VIRTUALLY NO DIALOGUE. DISCUSSION IN THESE AREAS IS LARGELY ELABORATION OF WELL-KNOWN GENERAL POSITIONS.

MEANWHILE, SOVIETS AND THEIR ALLIES ARE WAITING WARILY. THEY WOULD PREFER DISCUSSIONS OF SECURITY TO ADVANCE MORE RAPIDLY TO DRAFTING STAGE, AND THUS HAVE NO INTEREST IN SPEEDING UP WORK ON HUMAN CONTACTS. MOREOVER, THEY ARE UNWILLING AT THIS PRELIMINARY STAGE TO TURN THE DISCUSSION INTO A DIALOGUE WHICH WOULD BE EMBARRASSING TO THEM IN THIS SENSITIVE AREA.

SOME WESTERN COUNTRIES ARE COMING TO THE VIEW THAT THEY SHOULD MOVE MORE RAPIDLY THROUGH THE DISCUSSION AND GET TO MEANINGFUL CONCRETE TREATMENT OF PROPOSALS AT AN EARLY DATE TO COUNTER SOVIET INSISTENCE THAT DRAFTING BEGIN IMMEDIATELY ON BASIS OF TABLED EASTERN TEXTS. WESTERN PROBLEM IN HUMAN CONTACTS AREA IS TO FIND TACTICAL APPROACH WHICH WILL BROACH FUNDAMENTAL FREER MOVEMENT ISSUES WITHOUT SO AFFRONTING SOVIETS THAT SERIOUS DISCUSSION BECOMES IMPOSSIBLE. WITH DUTCH WANTING TO SOCK IT TO THEM AND FRENCH PLEADING FOR CAUTION, EC-9 ARE HAVING DIFFICULTIES IN FORMULATING TACTICS. END COMMENT. BASSIN

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